

IHA TAKE-A-LOOK PROGRAM

Physician & Other Healthcare Professionals Recruitment Tours

There is a critical shortage of doctors and other healthcare professionals in rural and underserved areas across New York State. According to a 2015 report from the Center of Health Workforce Studies, only 45% of new physicians in New York intended to practice in the state. Only 19% of respondents said they would practice in a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) and only 4% planned to practice in a rural location.

Many of those training to practice medicine in New York are unaware of the professional opportunities readily available in Upstate regions. The Iroquois Healthcare Association (IHA) "Take A Look" program originated in 2013 and aims to expose physician residents, medical students and other healthcare professionals training across the state to practice opportunities in Upstate New York communities. These guided tours are intended to encourage participants to "take a look" and learn about Upstate New York hospitals, medical staffs, communities and cultures through hospital and ambulatory care site visits. "Take A Look" is expanding to connect physicians and mid-levels—nurse practitioners, physician assistants and others—with career opportunities in Upstate NY, as well as promoting the region as a vibrant place to live and work.

We know an adequate healthcare infrastructure is necessary to achieve long-term economic growth. Therefore, a crucial component of our multifaceted strategy to assure an adequate supply of Upstate providers will be to conduct a marketing campaign that will promote healthcare workforce employment and career opportunities in the following economic development regions: Central NY, North Country, Western NY, Finger Lakes, Capital Region, Mohawk Valley and the Southern Tier. These regions are currently experiencing a critical shortage of healthcare workers which impedes access to vital healthcare services and weakens the economic outlook of the communities in these areas.

34

Residents Toured

4%

of new physicians in NYS plan to practice in a rural setting

26%

vacancy rate for physician specialties in a hospital outpatient setting

40

Upstate Facilities Visited



**Iroquois
Healthcare
Association**

15 Executive Park Drive
Clifton Park, NY 12065

*"I was very surprised with the **many opportunities** available in Upstate NY and it solidified my decision to ultimately move there. We met many physicians who are happy and enjoying their daily work **in the community** ... It was truly an **eye-opening experience.**"*

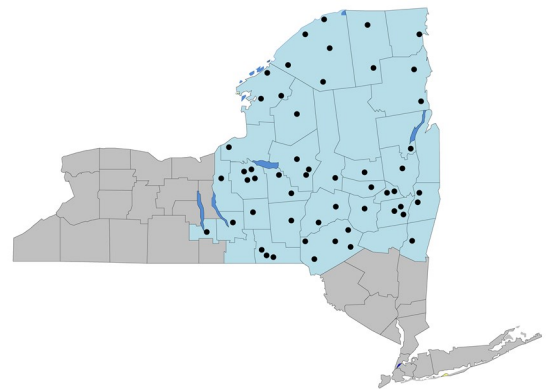
—2016 Take-A-Look Tour Participant

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2017-2018 Enacted Budget Appropriation (Page 566 of S.2003D/A.3003D)



For services and expenses of the Iroquois Healthcare Association Take a Look tour for physician residents ...**\$100,000**

2018-2019 Budget Appropriation Request



For services and expenses of the Iroquois Healthcare Association to conduct the “Take A Look” program within the following economic development regions: Central, North Country, Western, Finger Lakes, Capital Region, Mohawk and Southern Tier where there is a critical shortage of health care workers, including physicians, which impedes access to vital health care services and weakens the economic outlook of the communities in these areas. The “Take A Look” program aim to expose medical students, physician residents, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and others training across the state to practice opportunities in Upstate New York communities. Each tour itinerary provides opportunities for residents to “take a look” and learn about Upstate NY hospitals, medical staffs, communities and cultures through hospital and clinic/physician office visits. Funding may also be utilized to promote and educate individuals on the availability of funding under the NYS Doctors Across New York Program, the Primary Care Service Corps, the Regents Loan Forgiveness Program, and the National Health Service Corps.

Funding shall also be utilized to conduct a multi-media campaign to promote and market health care workforce employment and career opportunities and encourage residents of the identified regions to train for and enter the health workforce in the aforementioned economic development regions, to attract individuals undergoing training in health care professional educational programs including graduate medical education training in other regions of New York State and other states to pursue career opportunities in the identified regions, and to attract and encourage health care professionals from other states to pursue career opportunities in the identified regions.

The Iroquois Healthcare Association will issue a report annually to the chairs of the Central, North Country, Western, Finger Lakes, Capital Region, Mohawk and Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Councils, the Temporary President and Majority Leader of the New York State Senate, the Speaker of the New York State Assembly, and Central, North Country, Western, Finger Lakes, Capital Region, Mohawk and Southern Tier the Commissioner of the NYS Health Department providing an analysis of the shortage of health care workers in the aforementioned economic development areas, the multi-media campaign and the impact of the Take-A-Look Tour on the specified economic development areas**\$150,000**